

## WESTERN QUÉBEC SCHOOL BOARD



### Opening Address

- Welcome and introduction of all commissioners and parent-commissioners
- Acknowledge the challenges of the election campaign
- Commit to making decisions in the best interest of students and staff
- Commit to respecting the role of commissioners as the ultimate decision-makers at the council table
- Commit to reinforcing the role of commissioners as “ambassadors” of the Council and the conduit for communications and decision-making
- Encourage commissioners to play a greater role within their school and school board communities
- Reflect on current situation in Québec: QESBA and MELS
- Talk about entry plan meeting with director general
- Commit to establishing relationships between governing boards and commissioners
- The need to review the roles and responsibilities of commissioners as contained in the Education Act, and the need to reflect the culture of the Board and its jurisdiction
- The need to establish the role of the chair as contained in the Education Act
- Confidentiality: Be clear on the difference between confidentiality and transparency
- Respect the rights of each commissioner’s ideas, opinions, and the right to disagree
- All questions are good questions and merit good answers
- The need to have a “working session” with all commissioners and administration to clarify challenges, roles, and responsibilities: Monday, December 15, from 6 to 10 pm

### Report on Chairman’s Activity to Date

1. Orientation to Board and office procedures
2. Transition meetings with director general
3. Meeting with QESBA (Chair/DG) and Minister of Education- Yves Bolduc (MELS) - Nov 7
4. Watch for school board re-structuring on statement on November 19; English boards not the problem
5. Meeting with Ministre de la Famille, Francine Charbonneau; visit to Eardley - Nov 14

### Moving Forward:

- Reduction in number of commissioners
- Geography and travel considerations
- Financial considerations and budget parameters
- Affirm the Council of Commissioners as the ultimate decision-makers in all matters
- Make the best and most effective use of staff resources
- Promote, enhance, and establish EDUCATION as the central goals of all meetings and decisions
- Acknowledge and celebrate our accomplishments
- Affirm the *Delegation of Powers Bylaw* as determined by the Council of Commissioners
- Reinforce the Executive Committee’s mandate
- Bring all other matters not delegated in Bylaw or Education Act directly to Council for consideration

- Discontinue the practice of having committees review issues prior to coming to Council; no need to have staff make two presentations. New format of agenda would address these major topics
- This change would allow, and require, ALL commissioners to be involved and accept responsibility for ALL decisions of the Council
- Review of agenda structure to reflect this new way of making our focus on education
- Provide a specific area on agenda for “Commissioner Focus”: information sharing, celebrations, or inquiries
- Provide opportunity for input to agenda; establish process where all resolutions with the intent of becoming policy have to be clearly defined in writing beforehand and made available with the agenda
- Issues meriting specific and intense consideration would be referred to an Ad Hoc Committee for that specific task
- Optimize the use of technology, website, and commissioners’ portal as a means of communication and as a standard for conducting council business
- Make priority to establish a communications plan.

**Refer to Director General to give an overview of the parameters, challenges, and the team of educational and business leaders to assist us in our task. How do we make this work?**

Also as a Council, you may want to set some future directions and look at some ideas or projects that can also be done at an ad hoc or council level.

Ask commissioners if they would like to learn or know about something that we can present at a next council meeting or working session.

Establish a clear communication process between the administration and the commissioners.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration, feedback and support.

James Shea



## Stipend – Commissioners (proposal) 2014-2105

In light of the new Council of Commissioners structure, following are the guiding principles for the stipend allocation for Commissioners:

### Budget 2014-2015

<b>Commissioners' Stipend</b>			
<b>2014-2015</b>			
<i>Decret 707-2014 16 juillet 2004</i>			
Category	# of Commissioners	Amount	Total
Commissioners - July 1, 2014	21	\$ 1,238	\$ 25,998
Commissioners after November 2, 2014 <sup>1</sup>	16	\$ 2,476	\$ 39,616
Commissioners Executive- July 1, 2014	9	\$ 1,664	\$ 14,976
Commissioners after November 2, 2014	7	\$ 3,327	\$ 23,289
Student population (President)	6859	\$ 0.98	\$ 6,722
Wards - 75km > Board Office July 1, 2014	4	\$ 655	\$ 2,620
Wards - 75km > Board Office Nov.2, 2014	2	\$ 1,309	\$ 2,618
Commissioners - July 1, 2014(Additional Ctees)	21	\$ 437	\$ 9,177
Commissioners after November 2, 2014(Add.Ctees)	16	\$ 873	\$ 13,968
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 138,984</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excluding the Coop Commissioners

Proposed model of distribution among Commissioners:

1	Chairman	\$ 6,722		
	\$ 15,427	\$ 1,238		
		\$ 2,476		
		\$ 1,664		
		\$ 3,327		
		<u>\$ 15,427</u>		\$ 15,427
15	Commissioners	\$ 25,998		
	\$ 4,126.67	\$ 39,616		
		\$ 65,614		
		-\$ 3,714		
		<u>\$ 61,900</u>		\$ 61,900
6	Executive	\$ 14,976		
	\$ 5,546	\$ 23,289		\$ 33,274
		\$ 38,265		
		-\$ 4,991		
		<u>\$ 33,274</u>		
2	Comm - 75Km	\$ 2,620		
	\$ 2,619	\$ 2,618		
		<u>\$ 5,238</u>		\$ 5,238
X	Add. Ctee	\$ 9,177		
		\$ 13,968		
		<u>\$ 23,145</u>		\$ 23,145

## Committee Structure (proposal) 2014-2105

In light of the new Council of Commissioners structure, following are the guiding principles to review the 2014-2015 Committee Structure:

- ✚ Decreased in number of Commissioners (from 19 to 12);
- ✚ Decreased in travel budget;
- ✚ Revised Delegation of Powers By-Law;
- ✚ Reinforce the Executive Committee mandate
- ✚ Promote and enhance educational discussion at Council;
- ✚ Foster transparency and discussion on educational and business matters;
- ✚ Create ad hoc committees to review specific Council mandate i.e. policies, planning and review, etc.

Former Council	New Council Proposal
Council of Commissioners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 Commissioners (incl. Chair)</li> <li>• 2 Parent Commissioners</li> <li>• (Elementary/Secondary)</li> </ul>	Council of Commissioners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 Commissioners</li> <li>• 1 Chairman</li> <li>• 4 Parent Commissioners (El/Sec./SEAC/K-11)</li> <li>• 2 Coop Commissioners <i>to be determined</i></li> </ul>
Executive Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 Commissioners</li> <li>• 1 Chair (vice-chair)</li> <li>• 2 Parent Commissioners</li> </ul>	Executive Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman (Chair)</li> <li>• 5 Commissioners</li> <li>• 1 Parent Commissioner</li> </ul>
Standing Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Business</li> <li>• Corporate</li> </ul>	Transition to Council of Commissioners and Executive Committee
Ethics Committee	Ethics Committee <i>(to be determined)</i>
HR Committee (Executive)	HR Committee <i>(to be determined)</i>
Audit Committee (Business)	Audit Committee <i>(to be determined)</i>
Advisory Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAC</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Transportation</li> </ul>	Advisory Committees ( 1 Commissioner/ctee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAC</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Transportation</li> </ul>
Parity Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational Paritee Ctee</li> <li>• Professional Improvement Ctee</li> </ul>	Parity Committee - ( 1 Commissioner/ctee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational Paritee Ctee</li> <li>• Professional Improvement Ctee</li> </ul>
Ad Hoc Committees	Ad Hoc Committees